



SPRING  
2004



## WANTED!

### ALL MACOMB COUNTY MSUE MASTER GARDENERS TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW, INFORMATIVE AND EXCITING HOME HORTICULTURE E-NEWSLETTER LIST!

If you have not gotten on board you may have missed out on topics like these:

*"Emerald Ash Borer quarantine revised to enhance state efforts to prevent spread", "Horticulture & Environmental Education Workshop for children", THE MACOMB COUNTY MSUE MASTER GARDENERS PRESENT: TRAVEL TOURS 2004", JOB OPPORTUNITY-Southeast Michigan Resource Conservation & Development Council"* and much more.

It is a tool that will allow us to communicate with you on a weekly, and perhaps if necessary even more often basis. Providing you with information about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, cool websites, and well, the possibilities are endless. The list provides you with online Master Gardener news from the Macomb MSU Extension and other local Extension offices. It is used to inform you of educational events and volunteer opportunities and unbiased, educational information. The messages will be screened to be sure you are getting only those that do not sell products or services or promote any specific businesses. You are invited to submit comments, concerns, suggestions, volunteer opportunities and e-news worthy articles. Sometimes articles will be repeated. Copies of all Macomb Home Hort E-News Issues are available to view in a binder in the office or can be sent via e-mail upon request.

It is up to you to sign on to this list or to let us know if you are having trouble signing on. The future is now and this e-news could eventually take the place of the seasonal newsletter. The newsletters are available to view on line. You are encouraged to go to the Macomb MSU Extension website at [www.msue.msu.edu/macomb](http://www.msue.msu.edu/macomb) link to home horticulture and read all of the newsletters from 2003 and future newsletters. Can you imagine how much time and money this will help the Macomb Extension Program conserve? I know there are many of you who will not want to give up your hard copy of the newsletter, but we need to hear from those of you who are willing to get your news on line.

**Start by subscribing to the home hort e-news list today. Here's the general information for the list:**  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Sandra Richards  
**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [richards@msue.msu.edu](mailto:richards@msue.msu.edu)  
**PURPOSE:** Communication for Macomb County Master Gardeners  
To get on the list (also known as subscribe) simply follow these directions.  
**SEND EMAIL TO:** [Majordomo@listserv.msue.msu.edu](mailto:Majordomo@listserv.msue.msu.edu)  
(Don't use a signature or any fancy formatting, and don't put anything in the subject area)  
**SEND IN THE BODY OF THE MESSAGE:**  
Subscribe mastergardenermacomb  
**IF YOU SUCCESSFULLY SUBSCRIBE YOU WILL GET THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE OF WELCOME:**  
Welcome to the mastergardenermacomb mailing list!  
If you ever want to remove yourself from this mailing list, send the following command in email to  
"Majordomo@listserv.msue.msu.edu":  
unsubscribe mastergardenermacomb  
  
If you don't get the welcome message, please e-mail Sandra at [richards@msue.msu.edu](mailto:richards@msue.msu.edu), so I can fix it. Do not assume that I will notice if you are not getting mail.  
Good luck!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **"The Grand Hotel: Gardens of Mackinac Island"** Michigan State University Master Gardener Program and the Horticulture Gardening Institute announced an extraordinary summer experience, **"The Grand Hotel: Gardens of Mackinac Island."**

This first-ever, one-of-a-kind event includes special garden tours, lecture and launches a new online program, "Herbaceous Perennials: Identification, Culture and Garden Attributes featuring Allan Armitage," offered by the Horticulture Gardening Institute.

The two-day event begins Sunday evening, August 22 and continues through Tuesday morning, August 24, 2004. It's open to all gardeners and lovers of gardens. The cost is \$495 per couple, per night, based on double occupancy or \$420 per night, based on single occupancy, which includes meals and access to the new online perennials program. Reservations are being taken now and space is limited.

"Mackinac Island is a true gardener's paradise," said Mary McLellan, co-executive director of the Horticulture Gardening Institute and state master gardener coordinator for Michigan. "I am fortunate to be able to offer this inspirational event and to have the opportunity to work with Allan Armitage in launching the Institute's new online program."

The event brochure can be downloaded from the Master Gardener website at: <http://www.msue.msu.edu/mastergardener/Programs/2004/2004-08-Mackinac-Island.pdf> or you can have a brochure sent to you by contacting the state Master Gardener office at (517) 355-5191, ext. 408, or send an email to [mg@msu.edu](mailto:mg@msu.edu).

## **MSU Master Gardener Summer Conference**

June 21, 22, 23, 2004 Registration information will be sent directly to active Macomb MG's in the next few weeks. Volunteers are needed, call for info.

## **MSU Garden Day**

August 6, 2004 at Michigan State University  
Day-long program for \$75.00 includes keynote speakers, Roger Swain and Robert Schutzki. Also includes various workshops, such as, "Extreme Gardening", "Perennial Walk", "Rain Gardens", "Vines and Climbers", "Earth Bottom Ponds" and much more. Go to [www.hrt.msu.edu/outreach/gardenday2004.htm](http://www.hrt.msu.edu/outreach/gardenday2004.htm) for registration information.

## **MSU Extension-Oakland County Presents EVENING IN THE GARDENS**

MSU Extension-Oakland and Tollgate Garden Volunteers have announced exciting

and new educational workshops for 2004 at MSU Tollgate Education Center in Novi. These programs will count as full educational credits for Macomb

County MGs. Register early as these workshops fill quickly!

<http://www.mgsoc.org/Evening%20in%20the%20Gardens%202004.pdf>

Or call Oakland MSUE at (248)858-0881 and ask for Carol Lenchek

## **Four Star Greenhouse Inc. is happy to announce it's 2004 New Varieties and Programs Open House!**

Master Gardener Day is June 2, 2004 Where: 1015 Indian Trails Rd., Carleton, MI (734) 654-6420 New Varieties for 2005 will be displayed. Supernova Presentation. Perennial Presentation. Combination Planting trial display. Retail Display Destination area. ....and much more! RSVP by May 7 to: Kathy Smith at (734) 654-6420 or email @ [ksmith@fourstargh.com](mailto:ksmith@fourstargh.com).

## **Ornamental Tree and Shrub Pruning Workshop**

**Macomb MSU Extension in conjunction  
with the City of St. Clair Shores,  
is sponsoring a  
FREE Ornamental Tree and Shrub  
Pruning Workshop  
from 12 to 2 p.m.,  
Saturday, May 15.**

The workshop will be held at the Civic Arena in St. Clair Shores, 20000 Stephens (9 ½ Mile), between Little Mack and I-94. Call or email Vanita Skinner at 586-436-9665 or [derkurzhaar@comcast.net](mailto:derkurzhaar@comcast.net) by May 12 to register. Or contact the Macomb MSU Extension at 586-469-6440.

*Come learn simple techniques for pruning.  
Deborah Hall, MSUE Advanced Master Gardener,  
Certified Arborist and Lecturer for Michigan  
School of Gardening will share her expertise and  
help participants turn a mess into a natural  
beauty.*

*The workshop will provide one hour of classroom  
time and one hour of hands-on experience.*

***Dress for rain or shine, bring tools and a notebook.  
Refreshments will be served. Donations welcome.***

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## EXOTIC INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE LANDSCAPE

**Macomb MSU Extension is  
sponsoring a  
FREE Program on Exotic  
Invasive Species in the  
Landscape for MSUE Master  
Gardener Volunteers  
from 6 to 9 p.m.,  
Monday, June 7, 2004**



The program will be held at the Macomb MSU Extension Assembly Rooms. It features a presentation about the common pests in our environment that have been introduced inadvertently from other countries.

Special attention will be given to our most current problems with Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moth.

Pre-registration is requested for a head count. Please call the Macomb MSU Extension at 586-469-6440 or email Sandra Richards at richards@msue.msu.edu by June 4, 2004.

### **HERE'S WHAT IS GROWING ON IN 2004 WITH THE YARDENERS OF ST. CLAIR SHORES**

**Yardeners Native Plant Sale**  
Friday, May 7th 9-3 and Saturday, May 8th 9-1  
Contact Joyce Janicki at (586)778-0443 or visit <www.angelfire.com/biz2/earthjoy>

**The Yardeners 11th Annual Garden Tour**  
Saturday, August 7th 9-3 cost \$5.00 Registration begins 9am at the Selensky-Green Farmhouse Museum at 22500 11 Mile Rd. at 11 and Jefferson.  
Contact, Carol Schoener at (586)415-9653 for more information.

**Yardeners Fall Plant Exchange**  
Saturday, September 25th 9-11 in the rear of the St. Clair Shores Library parking lot at 11 mile Rd. and Jefferson.

Keep in touch with the Yardeners of St. Cl. Shrs on line at <www.stclairshores.net> click on local orgs then Yardeners.

### **MSU Extension Offers Travel Tours**

MSU Extension's (MSUE) Horticulture and Agriculture Programs is offering Travel Tours 2004, designed to actively explore new ideas in the field of horticulture. Experts and Extension Staff will guide participants in exploring beautifully designed gardens, research facilities, production nurseries and greenhouses. Registration required. Call 586-469-6440 or email Sandra Richards at richards@msue.msu.edu.

All tours depart from the Macomb MSUE office and are on a first come, first served basis. No refunds after deadline date. The following is a list of tour dates and destinations. See flyers enclosed.

**Holland Tulip Time, Tuesday, May 11.** Cost: \$62. Trip includes bus transportation (restroom equipped), lunch at Alpenrose Restaurant, admission to Windmill Island & Veldherr Tulip, Gardens and a tour of Wavecrest Nursery in Fennville. Registration deadline: Wednesday, April 28.

**MSU Tollgate Farm, Thursday, June 10.** Cost: \$50. Trip includes bus transportation (restroom equipped), family-style Italian lunch at Genetti's Restaurant, tour of MSU's Tollgate Garden Stops at the Northville Farmer's Market and Gardenviews. Registration deadline: Wednesday, May 26.

**Toledo Garden, Thursday, July 22.** Cost: \$45. Trip includes bus transportation (restroom equipped), box lunch at Toledo Botanical Garden, tour of Toledo Botanical Garden and The 577 Foundation, tour of two Private Gardens. Registration deadline: Wednesday, July 7

### **GARDEN GEMS OF PENNSYLVANIA AND DELAWARE**

Sun.-Fri. – August 8-13  
By Macomb Bloomin' Sunflowers in cooperation with MSUE-Macomb County.  
Garden and estate tours including Longwood, Winterthur, Hershey, Nemours, etc., garden shopping and much more. \$729 - Request Information --- 586-795-4601

# MASTER GARDENER NEWS

## **Living with the Emerald Ash Borer in Macomb County**

MSU Extension's (MSUE) Horticulture and Agriculture Programs is offering Living with the Emerald Ash Borer in Macomb County, May 6 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. in the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Road in Clinton Township. The cost is \$3 per person. This program will educate homeowners about the latest research and future plans to limit the spread of the destructive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). For more information, please call 586-469-6440 or visit [macombcountymi.gov/msuextension](http://macombcountymi.gov/msuextension) and click on Horticulture and Agriculture.

This MSUE program, in association with Conservation District of Macomb and Ingham Counties, will focus on:

- EAB life cycle and damage in southeast Michigan and Macomb County
- Management of EAB in the urban landscape
- Quarantine area, tree removal and disposal
- Replacing trees
- Research and containment

Successful eradication EAB and minimizing the spread and damage of this pest requires the cooperation of *all* Michigan residents.

## **MSU Extension Offers Emerald Ash Borer Program for Municipalities**

MSU Extension's (MSUE) Horticulture and Agriculture Programs is offering Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): A Municipal Perspective, May 20 from 9 a.m. to noon at the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Road in Clinton Township. The cost is \$5 per person; the program is open to the general public but is geared for elected officials.

The program will focus on:

- A demonstration of a portable mill
- Efforts to salvage ash as a valuable natural resource
- Future plans to limit the spread of this destructive pest
- Latest research about EAB
- Possibilities for recycling the ash wood

Representatives from Michigan State University, Michigan Department of Agriculture, MSU Extension and the Department of Natural Resources will be available to answer questions. A local City Forester, a representative of a local Nursery and the Macomb Conservation District will also be on hand. *For more information, call 586-469-6440.*

## **MACOMB-OAKLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICTS HIRE FORESTER TO ASSIST RESIDENTS WITH FOREST HEALTH PROBLEMS**



Hello, my name is Sal Hansen and I am your Resource Management Forester. I have been hired by the Conservation Districts OF Oakland and Macomb Counties to assist public and private landowners perform management activities on forestland, wildlife habitat, and related natural resources. Our legislators have authorized funds to provide 20 foresters throughout the state. My assistance comes to the public at no cost and includes working with other local government agencies to provide assistance to Macomb and Oakland counties for its forestry and natural resource needs. I will be more than happy to help you with the selection and planting of trees, shrubs, and plants as well as offer advice on control of insects, diseases, and wildlife pests on your yards and woodlands. I am also available to offer assistance with forest stewardship plans and reference to reliable private planners for timber stand improvement and reforestation. Please keep an eye out for upcoming workshops concerning relevant topics in dealing with pests such as Emerald Ash Borer and diseases such as Oak Wilt and Beech Bark Disease. If you have concerns about your woodlot and would like to learn more about good forestry practices or just have questions regarding the health of your trees, call me at (586) 727-2666 for a consultation. I look forward to hearing from you!

# MASTER GARDENER NEWS

## **1-Minute Tips Now Archived on MSUE Website**

The "Emergency Management 1-Minute Tips" began shortly after 9/11, offering various briefs on both natural and man-made hazards. With each and every tip, subscribers have sent positive comments about how they were used in newsletters, news releases, educational programs, and for personal or family safety. One reader even commented that our series on "Tornadoes" helped settle a debate with a spouse on whether windows need to be opened to equalize air pressure when a tornado is threatening (they don't). Whether for personal use, or in programming, it is good to know that the "Tips" are being used.

After receiving a number of requests for a copy of a Tip written in the past, and receiving several suggestions that the EM 1-Minute Tips be archived, we have done just that. The "Emergency Management 1-Minute Tips" are now kept in an

archive page on the MSU Extension Emergency Management web site. Most (that we could reclaim) are posted now. The URL for this site is: <http://www.msue.msu.edu/emergency/> Unless noted otherwise in the Tip, you are welcome to use this information in a newsletter article, press release, or in other educational or informational efforts. To find the archived Tips, go to the home page listed above and scroll down to the lower left hand corner of the page.

Mark F. Hansen, Ph.D. ~~~~~\_/) ~~~~~  
Extension Specialist, Wildfire Prevention and  
Extension Coordinator, Emergency Management  
Programs

11 Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039  
(517) 432-7696 Fax: (517) 432-1048  
[hansenm@msue.msu.edu](mailto:hansenm@msue.msu.edu)

**GARDEN CLUB INFORMATION**– If you are part of a garden or environmental association or club and are looking to increase your membership, please contact this office at (586)469-6440 and we will be happy to let MG's know about you!

## **Invite to Troy Garden Club**

The TROY GARDEN CLUB meets at the Big Beaver United Methodist Church located at 3753 John R Road in Troy. The church is located just south of Wattles Road on the west side of the street.

Refreshments will be served at 12 o'clock. Visitors are welcome at the Club's programs. There is a three dollar guest donation. For more information call Rita at (248) 540-4249. Reservations are not required.

## **Invite to St. Clair MG Association**

I have enclosed the St. Clair Co. MGA mission and purpose statement. I welcome questions anyone may have - phone or Email and we especially welcome anyone to our events and membership. Thank you for your assistance in promoting the Association.

Warmly,

Laurie Dennis (810) 385-3289, [Lolo52@aol.com](mailto:Lolo52@aol.com)

St. Clair County Master Gardener Association

## **Mission Statement**

The St. Clair County Master Gardener Association through the Master Gardener program was designed to develop a cadre of Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) volunteers trained in horticulture. Their knowledge and skills related to the basic plant science and home gardening enables these volunteers to improve the quality of life in their communities. This is accomplished by increasing peoples appreciation for and use of plants by providing them with instruction on growing plants using environmentally sound practices.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of this association is to provide a forum for Master Gardener volunteers to meet on a regular basis, exchange information and continue to share their knowledge and love of horticulture with their community through volunteer service.

**PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

Excerpts from January 2004 Issue  
Pesticide Notes Newsletter :From the Pesticide Safety  
Education Program at MSU  
Newsletter prepared by:  
Chris DiFonzo  
MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program  
B18 Food Safety and Toxicology Building  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
Web site: [www.pested.msu.edu](http://www.pested.msu.edu)

\*\*\*CONSUMER ALERT: Voluntary Recall of Raid Product\*\*\*  
[from the weekly EPA Pesticide Program Update]  
S.C. Johnson Company has voluntarily recalled two specific lots of Raid Flying Insect Killer due to unacceptable performance. Although there are no reports of injury or damage to property, tests show that the aerosol cans may not spray an appropriate amount of the insecticide and therefore have reduced effectiveness. The company also believes that some cans could develop leaks over time. The product is Raid Flying Insect Killer (EPA Registration Number 4822-513) marked with lot numbers 225 or 226 on the bottom of the can. Consumers with this product should call the S.C. Johnson Hotline at 1-800-294-3632 for disposal instructions and full value replacement coupons. No other Raid products are involved in this recall. SC Johnson has the recall posted on the web at [http://www.scjohnson.com/family/fam\\_pre\\_pre\\_news.asp?art\\_id=109](http://www.scjohnson.com/family/fam_pre_pre_news.asp?art_id=109)

\*\*\*West Nile Virus Tally\*\*\*

Here is the latest numbers as of late 2003 on West Nile Virus (WNV) in the U.S.:

Total number of reported human cases: 8,567, 199 of which were fatal

Number of states: 46 (only Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii with no cases)

Top three states: Colorado (n = 2,477), Nebraska (n = 1,727), South Dakota (n = 1,001)

Michigan: 32nd with 15 cases, 1 death (remember, Michigan was a hot spot in 2002)

Gender distribution: 53% males, 47% female

Age range: 1 month to 99 years of age

Dates of illness onset: Between 28 March to 3 November

Blood donations: 737 tested positive for WNV, mostly in western states

Non-human cases: 11,350 dead birds; horses, dogs, cats, squirrels

For complete numbers, see the CDC web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5247a7.htm>

[illegible]

## NEW EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

\*\*\*Ordering from the MSU Bulletin Office\*\*\*

In October, the MSU Bulletin Office changed its system to allow on-line ordering. The web site is <http://web2.msue.msu.edu/bulletins/intro.cfm>. It can be accessed by MSU extension as well as people outside the university. All certification manuals are listed under PESTICIDE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION in the subject search area, along with the price and the number in stock.

\*\*\*IPM posters for schools\*\*\*

Don Baumgartner from the Region 5 EPA Office passes on this web site from California. It has some clever school IPM posters aimed at kids. <http://www.calisafe.org/posters.htm>  
\*\*\*Free stuff from EPA\*\*\*

## "Help Yourself to a Healthy Home: Protect your Children's Health"

56 pages of information for parents, grandparents and caregivers. Includes info on environmental contaminants found in many American homes and how to protect your family from risks posed by carbon monoxide, unhealthy drinking waters, poor indoor air quality, lead poisoning, hazardous household products, pesticides, and much more. It features "Questions to Ask" that will help parents learn if their home has hidden safety and health dangers, and suggests steps to take to protect kids. Also available in Spanish as "Contribuya a Tener un Hogar Sano."

To order, call Kathy Seikel at 703-308-8272, or email [seikel.kathy@epa.gov](mailto:seikel.kathy@epa.gov).

"Join our Pest Patrol: A Backyard Activity Book for Kids on Integrated Pest Management."

A new publication, geared for elementary school children in grades 3-5. Originally developed by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture under an EPA grant, now adapted for nationwide use. It has 29 pages of activities that can easily be incorporated into reading, science, or even math and art classes. It provides kids - and teachers - with important information about pest identity, biology, and ecology. Bulk orders are accepted.

To order, call Kathy Seikel at 703-308-8272 or email [seikel.kathy@epa.gov](mailto:seikel.kathy@epa.gov).

Pesticide safety promotional items.

EPA's Consumer Labeling Initiative (CLI) offers free promotional items to raise awareness about the importance of reading pesticide products labels. Promotional items available free of charge

to the public include rulers, bag clips, and jar openers.

To order, call 703-305-5017 or send an email request to [lormand.mary-jean@epa.gov](mailto:lormand.mary-jean@epa.gov).

\*\*\*Miscellaneous publications received in the Pest Ed  
Office\*\*\*

"Offering sound pest management advice to the public".

Purdue University Bulletin PPP-62. New Nov. 2003, geared towards extension educators, master gardeners, nursery/lawn care professionals. \$1 per copy. Call 1-888-398-4636 and ask for media distribution. Or download free of charge at <http://www.btny.purdue.edu/PPP/>

# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

*Here is a very exciting program from Ohio MGs, that Michigan Master Gardeners may want to get involved with.*

Dear fellow Master Gardeners;

I am an Ohio Master Gardener volunteer with the OSU Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center (OPGC). I am assisting with their efforts to collect germplasm of ornamental plants - specifically the heirlooms and related species.

The OPGC, established in 2001 at The Ohio State University in Columbus, OH, is the only USDA National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) gene bank specializing exclusively in herbaceous ornamental plants. The Center joins the NPGS network of some 25 other plant repositories around the United States to collect, conserve, evaluate and distribute our valuable crop germplasm. All the seed lines collected will be backed up at the state of the art long-term storage facilities of the USDA National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation in Fort Collins, CO. Currently, NPGS has 450,000 accessions (seed lines) in its gene banks and only about 3,000 of them are herbaceous ornamental species.

Without gene banks, genes that confer valuable traits such as natural resistance to insects or diseases can be lost when our heirloom plants are replaced by newer, trendier varieties or when natural habitats of the related wild species of our crops are destroyed by urban and rural development. The preservation of flower germplasm has become even more important as

concentrated breeding narrows the gene pool of many popular flowers by focusing mainly on aesthetics. The OPGC staff is responsible not only for maintaining the existing collection, but also for continuously building the collection, either through exchanges or plant-collecting expeditions, and for generating new and improved techniques for long-term conservation.

At this time, we are letting you know about our task in the hope that you will be able to assist us with our collection efforts. Please refer to our website <http://opgc.osu.edu> to learn more about this project. We are interested in seed or plant material from our targeted plants. Please click on "Priority Genera" on our website. In addition, if there other significant heirloom, "native" or non-hybrid plants for which you have seed or plant material, we would appreciate you letting me know so we may consider adding it to our collection. If you would be interested in assisting with this important national effort, please send me an e-mail at [opgc@osu.edu](mailto:opgc@osu.edu) or call me at 614-292-1941.

Thank you.

Joanne Dole, Master Gardener  
Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center  
The Ohio State University  
670 Vernon Sharp St.  
Columbus, OH 43210  
[www.opgc.osu.edu](http://www.opgc.osu.edu)  
E-mail: [opgc@osu.edu](mailto:opgc@osu.edu)  
Ph: 614.292.1941  
Fax: 614.292.3768



## Eastpointe's Project BOD--Beautify Our Downtown

If you're looking for a place to volunteer on a youth gardening project in southeast Macomb County, look toward Eastpointe's Project BOD--Beautify Our Downtown.

Local MSUE-Macomb Master Gardeners have teamed up with multiple participating partners, including the East Detroit Schools, on a major project that will involve four different areas, including the creation of a Children's Garden. The project is looking for additional MSU-E MG's to work with youth, ages 5 to 17.

Volunteers could be included in assisting with the design and maintenance of the children's garden, planting annuals in established beds, or maintaining planters and teaching gardening classes. The project starts in March with the design, soil testing in April, soil amendments and planting on May 14 and 15, continuing into general maintenance and teaching youth classes in June and August.

For more information call Myra Golden at 772-4117, Margaret Smith 775-4862, or Suzanne Pixley, 777-6195.

## VOLUNTEER RECORD KEEPING NEWS!

Enclosed you will find what could be your last volunteer timesheet. In the next few weeks, the state office will unveil the new on-line opportunity for volunteers to submit their own hours. We will always welcome your paper forms, and provide them as an alternative...just wanted to let give you a heads-up!



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## Sterling Heights Evangelical Home Spring Plans and Workdays

Submitted by: Dub Hearon, MSUE Master Gardener  
Project Coordinator

This is the news as I see it. Over 20 MSU MG's, representing the classes 1989 to 2004, attended the Annual Pizza Party at the Evangelical Home-Sterling Heights on February 18<sup>th</sup>. The Home had an absolutely fantastic spread already laid out for us - pizza, salad, soft drinks, coffee, water and cake & ice cream. Carolina, our hostesses, was really prepared for us. As the Good Gardeners that we are we wasted no time digging into the salad (and pizza) and all the rest of the delicious goodies.

While enjoying the food we accomplished the following planning:

**Work Days: This year we are going with a Wednesday & Thursday schedule for the days where we will get together as a team. Spring May 12 & 13 (May 12<sup>th</sup> is the planned water demonstration day) Early Fall Sep 15 & 16**

**Late Fall Oct 27 & 28 (Clean Up the Garden) (Note: Work days begin at 6:00 PM, but you may come earlier if you wish. Please pull all of the weeds in Sector 7 when you have time)**

We did not schedule as many "corporate" work days but each Sector Group is encouraged to team up with their other MG's on other days to work their particular sector as needed. Rich Hammerick made an appeal to all MG's to pull thistle on the north end when they are the Home. The thistle is somewhat out of control at that location.

**Green Thumbers: Green Thumbers is the activity to grow plants from seed and transplant the seedlings into the courtyard wood planters. This activity runs from March to October and meet most Thursdays in this timeframe at 3:00 PM. We also discussed the annuals that have been successful in the courtyard in the past. An appeal was passed out for the group to watch for seeds. There were several people interested in helping with the seed starting.**

**Garden Walk: It was agreed to not have a Garden Walk this year. We had one in 2002 to include a Tea Party where the Residents dressed in garden hats for the occasion.**

**Emerald Ash Borer: Several of the ash trees in the Nature Area are dead (or dying) as a result of the Emerald Ash Borer. The consensus of the group was to leave the trees standing (since the borer will leave as it will have no food) for the squirrels & birds to enjoy. We will keep an eye on the trees to make sure there is not a hazard of a branch falling. Mr. Walz is aware that some of the trees have been attacked by the borer**

and that the trees will eventually have to be removed.

**Bridge Connecting the EH with Lakeside Terrace (another not for profit home) to the east of the EH. A bridge does exist but there is hope to add concrete and railings in the year 2004. The current bridge is a dirt & wood chip bridge. Lakeside Terrace is responsible for the money needed for the completion of this project. Thus far there have[has] been NO EXPENSE to Lakeside Terrace.**

**Mulch: Wood chips are to be ordered. Two loads for the south end and one load for the north end. It was agreed that when the chips are delivered to the north end that it will be urgent that we move the chips quickly as the chips are dumped on the grass on that location.**

**Nature Walk Extension: We discussed the plan to relocate trees/shrubs to make room for the eventual extended concrete path to the north. The Home continues to budget for this need and hopes to have the money soon for the work. We need to have the plants moved so that the damage caused by the concrete workers is minimal.**

**Volunteer Hours: Several ways to report volunteer MSU MG Volunteer hours at the EH. A person can record hours in the volunteer book located in the Home. You can also report your hours via e mail at the end of the season. The Home, like MSU, needs the hours recorded and reported. *The reporting of hours at the EH does not change any reporting requirements to the MSU MG program.***

**Hall of Fame: Dub Hearon circulated a Hall of Fame list of the 93 different MSU MG's that have participated in the EH program since its' inception in 1989. Almost ½ of these volunteers have 2 years or more of volunteer time.**

**Adopt a Sector List: The gardens at the EH have been divided into 12 different Sectors. The list was circulated for correction and update. We are expecting about 25 MSU MG's to be active in the program this year.[More are welcome!]**

**Garden Walk- Barb Damjanov's Rose Garden: We discussed a September 2004 garden walk at the home of Barb Danjanov. Barb has a wide variety of roses - about 80 different plants plus geraniums, pansies, sweet Williams, etc. Her age exceeds the number of roses bushes and she outworks most people half her age.**

***P.S. I wish to apologize to John Hurner, Ralph Ash and Gerri Marcotte (Class 03) for my failure to add their names last year to my e mail address file. Therefore they were not informed of the Pizza Party.***

## **THINK SPRING!**



# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Pocket Park

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Pocket Park located within the Michigan State Fair Grounds was opened in the summer of 1998. This two acre green oasis contains a fishing pond shaped like the State of Michigan, archery range, pellet gun range and a mock campsite. The beautiful landscape is made up of native plants both in prairie and wetland settings. The Pocket Park was designed for fun filled hands on educational experiences for children, youth and families.

Volunteers are needed to help provide tender loving care to the landscape at the Pocket Park. Schedule to be developed for the 2004 season.

For further information contact:  
Michigan State University Extension  
Gary Williams, Natural Resources Outreach  
Programs Coordinator at 313-833-3299

## **THANK YOU ! GOURMET GARDEN HOUR**

Spring marks the end of yet another exceptional winter season of informative lectures at the Mt. Clemens Library.

Special thanks to Jim and Susan Keehn for all of the time and effort they commit to this wonderful volunteer project. Thank are due to the Mt. Clemens Library for hosting the program. Judging from the growing size of the audience and the words of praise, this program is an important outreach opportunity.

Also, many thanks to the presenters of the 2004 programs who include:

Jim Keehn  
Susan Keehn  
Karen Auch  
Jenny Depa-Karl  
Zoe Wilcoxson  
Linda Billings

If you would like to help with the program contact the MSUE office.

## **Volunteers needed to help with flowerbeds at the Armada Fair Grounds**

Submitted by: Ann Walsh, 586-484-1989 or at AnnMarie1117@hotmail.com.

Hi Sandra

I was wondering if you could put something in the next newsletter about the adopt a bed program that I'm starting at the Armada Fair.

I would like to get volunteers to plant flowers, weed and deadhead their planted beds throughout the summer. The flowerbeds will be displayed throughout the entire Armada Fair week.

Each adopter will be responsible for their own flowerbeds and equipment for planting the beds. The equipment that is brought must be taken home, there is no place for storage at the fair grounds.

Corporate flower beds will be available for the 2004 fair without doing any work! Businesses just need to donate flowers for their bed. The name of the business or family will be displayed on their corporate flowerbed, the flowerbeds will be placed around the fair grounds during the Armada Fair week.

Applications forms will be available at the fair office or emailed upon request.

The Armada Fair supplies all the beds with soil and fertilizer. If you or someone you now would like to donate flowers, signs (to display donators names), wine barrels or large pots please contact Ann Walsh at 586-484-1989 or at AnnMarie1117@hotmail.com. I would just like to add this is a good way for Master Gardeners to get their hours in.

## **Plant A Row for the Hungry garden at the Michigan State Fairgrounds**

Master Gardeners are needed to form a team to plant and maintain the Plant A Row for the Hungry garden at the Michigan State Fairgrounds for the growing season. Hours will be flexible, depending on the preferences of the team members. Meetings and the planting day will also be up to the team.

Possible planting days are:  
There is not a set number of hours required. Weekend and evening hours will be available, as well as daytime/weekday hours. What's needed is a commitment to sign up for weeding/maintenance days

during the summer, depending on your schedule.

A co-leader is also needed.

Nora Wojciechowski, an Oakland County MG and member of the PAR Steering Committee, has agreed to be the other co-leader. Most work coordinating the schedules can be done by phone and/or email, so the co-leader does not have to be at the garden constantly.

If you would like to plug into this project, please contact Nora at 248.585-0957 or shadowdog@ameritech.net.

This project counts for volunteer hours.

# VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

## **Mark you calendar now for** **Clinton River/Spillway Bikepath** **Beautification "year 2004" Project Days**

Project day schedule for all three project days is as follows: 8:00am(registration), 8:30am(education), 9:30am to 3:30pm (gardening and cleanup)

### **Spring Saturday, May 15, 2004**

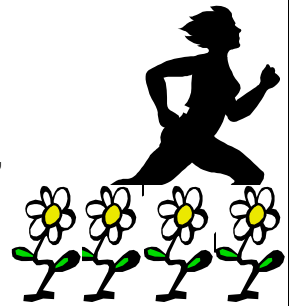
cleaning and planting (coordinated with "River Day" and "Nautical Coast Clean-up" events)

### **Summer Saturday, July 17, 2004**

Garden and tree Maintenance

**Fall Saturday, September 18, 2004** Clean-up and plant division (coordinated with the Clinton River Watershed "River Clean Up")

Questions? Call (586)469-6440



## **Shadbush Nature Center Update**

A new and better-looking garden area has been installed which will "house" two new gardens: An Herb Garden and our new Pollinator Garden. We need helpers to amend the soil, install the paths, move plants from the "old" garden, plant seeds, annuals, weed and water all summer, etc. We are also setting up a new "Deer Test Garden" that will be dependent on deer resistant plant donations which are too numerous to list here. I'll be happy to mail you a list, and donations can be brought on June 5 to the MG Plant Exchange. Come join our Shadbush Group, we will have several big workdays and an ongoing maintenance schedule.

Call Dianne Granthen 586.739.6332

Please note: I cannot give work days because we depend so much on when Shelby Parks & Rec. Dept. do their required prep work. Call for more information.



**"Ask A**  
**Master**  
**Gardener...**  
**Helping**  
**People**  
**Grow"**

## **"Ask A Master Gardener...Helping People Grow"**

Once known as Let's Go Gardening", Ask a Master Gardener...Helping People Grow is the only retail gardening volunteer experience available to Master Gardeners.

Volunteer at the designated local nurseries, garden centers or greenhouses to answer their customers' questions. On weekends through the months of May and June, MG Volunteers will be representing Extension and answering questions at Frank's Nursery, Evergreens, English Gardens, Semrau's, Soullier's, Weigand's, Flower Barn, Lumberjack's, and Hessell's, and Meldrums. Contracts with more sites are still pending.

This is a major fundraiser for the Macomb Master Gardener Program, as each participating store has agreed to donate money to the Macomb MG Program for each hour the volunteers work, so your help is very much appreciated.

An additional incentive is that many of these stores offer a discount to you on the day you volunteer. Sign up now and sign up often! Please call Kim or Sandra at 586-469-6440 to sign up.

Thank you to Katie D'Luge for new AaMG signs!

## **Plants for a Purpose**

**Enclosed you will find the poster for the Annual Macomb MSUE Spring Plant Exchange. First Saturday in June from 9 to noon. All are welcome! Please spread the word, the more people who attend the more variety of plants to share and trade.**

**New this year, plan to bring plants propagated specifically for some designated Master Gardener Volunteer Projects. Look for the booth the day of the Plant Exchange.**

The Octagon House celebrates 150 years in 2010!

## Victorian Era Gardens

BY: Jenny Depa-Karl

An Overview of Victorian Britain - The “Victorian Age” began when 18-year-old Princess Alexandrina Victoria acceded to the throne in 1836 and reigned 63 years until her death in 1901.

- Britain was at the height of her powers; the British Empire was the largest administrative entity the world had ever seen. It spanned about a quarter of the land surface of the earth.
- It was the age of the Industrial Revolution and a growing middle class. Communication and transportation underwent their own revolution...and the world shrank!
- Exploration of the British Empire provided a richness of plant life as never seen before (invention of the Wardian Case, ie. miniature sealed greenhouse).
- Techniques of plant hybridization were also being developed.

Victorian Flower Gardening – Victorian gardens contained formal & informal elements; bold colors, wild color schemes and exotic, *big* plants (ie. elephant's ears, castor beans, ornamental grass, bamboo, etc.) for drama. Perennials, annuals, shrubs, ornamental trees together with vegetables, fruits, walled gardens, beds & borders, parterres, vines and roses. Victorians brought the outdoors *in* and the indoors *out*!

- Beds & Borders - A bed is a geometric planting predominated by one-type of flower.
- Towards the end of the century, carpet bedding, in which the flower beds copied the patterns on real carpets and wallpapers, became popular (Victorians adored Persian carpets). Foliage color became important. Color ruled – bright was beautiful!

Favorite colors were electric blue, flaming orange, passionate purple and brazen red.

- A border contains a mixture of plants usually against a wall. While the mixture contained annuals, the herbaceous borders were composed largely of perennials.
- Mid-Victorian gardeners came to rebel against formal bedding style and began to bring elements of the cottage garden into their gardens – mixed borders, curving edges and colors that would provide months of color and mature over a period of years.

### Framework of the Victorian Garden –

- Fences & Walls – Cast iron railings and gates, picket fence, brick and stone
- Paths & Steps – Paved terrace/courtyards of brick, stone, gravel – herringbone most appealing. Path edging of terra cotta rope-type and wood; stone steps used to create changes of level.

Lawns – An important living structural feature of the Victorian garden (invention of the cylinder mower in the 1830's provided an appealing “striped” appearance).

Ornaments, Statuary & Furniture – Urns in stone, terra cotta, cast iron – formal Italian style popular. Furniture in stone, wood, steel, cast iron. Gardens often contained a conservatory, summerhouse and/or wirework arbors.

References: Creating a Victorian Flower Garden, by Stefan Buczacki, 1988

Theme Gardens, by Barbara Damrosch, 1982

[www.victoriana.com](http://www.victoriana.com)

[www.gardengatemagazine.com](http://www.gardengatemagazine.com)



The following information was presented at the Octagarden Spring information meeting held March 31, 2004 at the MSUE Macomb Office. The purpose of the meeting was to seek volunteers to assist in on-going maintenance and restoration of Victorian Era gardens at the Octagon House. Functions of the Octagardeners were discussed at the meeting. Volunteers are needed to support various roles on

several committees and/or key positions such as accountant/bookkeeper, secretary, historian, work day coord., fundraising, etc.

Adopt-A-Garden is as a way for volunteers to commit to perform garden maintenance in one (or more) of the various gardens at the Octagon House during the 2004 growing season. Work schedules are agreed upon by team members who have adopted a particular garden(s). Gardeners are responsible for their own garden tools; water and hoses are provided by the House. Flowers/bedding materials have typically been donated to the Octagon House by organizations, businesses and individuals. Funds are limited.

Octagon House Calendar of Events thus far : May 1 is MG Spring Clean-up, 9–1; May 8 & 9 plant roses in the Heritage Rose Garden, 9–5. Watch the Home Hort E-News for additional dates.

# MACOMB MASTER GARDENER NEWS



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Horticulture Program Coordinator

Kim Ackerman  
Horticulture Program Educator

Sue Scribner  
Horticulture Secretary  
Phone: (586)469-6440  
Fax: (586)469-6948

## HOTLINE

Master Gardener (586)469-5063  
MWF 9-4

Toll-free calling for the following communities:  
Center Line, Warren (586)979-7020  
Armada, Romeo (586)752-4506  
Memphis, Richmond (586)727-3175  
Office hours: 8:30 – 5:00 Monday through Friday  
[www.msue.msu.edu/macomb/](http://www.msue.msu.edu/macomb/)

The Macomb Master Gardener Newsletter is a publication of the MSU Extension of Macomb County. It is automatically sent to active MG's. Articles from MG Volunteers are always welcome but will be subject to editing.

## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS?

The following are currently established volunteer opportunities that may need your help. Please stop by the office or call Kim or Sandra to help

## EXTENSION PROJECTS

- Hotline
- Info booths:
  - Farmers Market
  - County fair
  - State fair
  - Various festivals and community events
- Speaking and teaching opportunities

## HANDS-ON PROJECTS (This is not a complete list)

- Demonstration Garden
- Farmers Market
- Octagarden
- Clinton Twp. Bikepath
- Churches:
  - Redemption Lutheran
  - Rockpointe Community
  - St. Paul of Tarsus
- Community Beautification:
  - North, South, East and Western Macomb
- School planting projects
- Nature Centers:
  - Shadbush
  - Stony Creek
  - Wolcott Mill
  - East Detroit Historical Society
- Senior Centers:
  - Sterling Heights Evangelical Home
  - Peace Presbyterian